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Friedrich Kastner

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EXAMINER

KHATRI, PRASHANT J

ART UNIT

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01/14/2010

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/534,454	Applicant(s) KASTNER ET AL.	
	Examiner PRASHANT J. KHATRI	Art Unit 1794	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 October 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

In response to Amendments/Arguments filed 10/22/2009. Claims 1-22 are pending.
Claims 21-22 were added as new.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
2. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
3. Regarding claim 20, the phrase "such as" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitations following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. See MPEP § 2173.05(d).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 12 and 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kaule (**WO 99/569964**). The PCT application was published November 11, 1999.

Examiner would like to note that US Patent No. 6688221 is used as the translation as the specification for entry as a National Stage Application must be translated as filed into English. *See MPEP 1893.01(a)*.

6. Kaule discloses a method for producing security foils for various objects.

Concerning claim 12, Kaule discloses producing a security foil by coating a carrier foil with a lacquer layer that is UV-curable, embossing the lacquer layer, wherein the embossed areas are filled in with ink or negatively-printed on, covered with a metal layer and treated to provide an optical holographic metallized security feature (**FIG. 1; col. 6, lines 19+**). The material is cured prior to the filling of ink (**col. 6, lines 57+**).

Regarding claims 14 and 15, Kaule discloses the resultant laminate can be cut and the security element can be fastened to an object to be protected (**col. 8, lines 37+**). Given the above disclosure, Examiner takes the position that that the fastening means would include and encompass the presently claimed “further functional layers and/or adhesion layers” since a further fastening in the art is known to require an adhesive or other functional layer to provide adhesiveness and other functionalities.

While it is acknowledged that Kaule is silent to the UV-curable lacquer being “deep-drawable”, it is noted that since Applicant broadly recites the limitation of a UV-curable lacquer, it is the Examiner's position that the UV-curable lacquer intrinsically would be “deep-drawable”. Examiner also notes that the lacquer as presently claimed has the capability of being cured by ultraviolet radiation and further has the capability to be “deep-drawable”. As such, given the above broad disclosure of a UV-curable lacquer in which the lacquer must only be capable of being “deep-drawable” that is

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presently claimed in conjunction with the disclosure of a UV-curable lacquer, it is the Examiner's position that given the broad disclosure, the material of Kaule would intrinsically meet the presently claimed limitation. Applicant is reminded that the recitation of a newly disclosed property does not distinguish over a reference disclosure of the article or composition claims. *General Electric v. Jewe Incandescent Lamp Co.*, 67 USPQ 155. *Titanium Metal Corp. v. Banner*, 227 USPQ 773. Applicant bears the responsibility for proving that the reference composition does not possess the characteristics recited in the claims. *In re Fitzgerald*, 205 USPQ 597, *In re Best*, 195 USPQ 430.

Kaule discloses that security features are may be applied to any object (**col. 8, lines 37+**), but is silent to the security feature is 'for application onto a packaging film.' However, the limitation of 'for application onto a packaging film' is a statement of intended use, and must result in a structural difference between the prior art and the claimed intended use to be given patentable weight. See *MPEP 2111.02 II*. No structural difference can be discerned between the prior art and the present claims.

Therefore Kaule teaches a method for producing security features, that are capable of being applied to a packaging film, wherein the security label features comprise the layered structure as required by the instant claims including a carrier substrate, a UV-curable separation lacquer, considered to be capable of being deep-drawn, that is cured completely after being embossed by a mold, which is subsequently provided with additional functional layers including printed ink and adhesive layers, and wherein said features are cut to size to be transferred to an object.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 1-8 and 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaule (**WO 99/569964**) in view of Walter (**US 4146418**) or alternatively, Walter in view of Kaule et al. The PCT application was published November 11, 1999. Examiner would like to note that US Patent No. 6688221 is used as the translation as the specification for entry as a National Stage Application must be translated as filed into English. See *MPEP 1893.01(a)*.

9. Kaule discloses a method for producing security foils for various objects. Concerning claims 1-7 and 12, Kaule discloses producing a security foil by coating a carrier foil with a lacquer layer that is UV-curable, embossing the lacquer layer, wherein the embossed areas are filled in with ink or negatively-printed on, covered with a metal layer and treated to provide an optical holographic metallized security feature (**FIG. 1; col. 6, lines 19+**). The material is cured prior to the filling of ink (**col. 6, lines 57+**). Kaule discloses the resultant laminate can be cut and the security element can be fastened to an object to be protected (**col. 8, lines 37+**). Given the above disclosure, Examiner takes the position that that the fastening means would include and encompass the presently claimed "further functional layers and/or adhesion layers" of

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claims 8 since a further fastening in the art is known to require an adhesive or other functional layer to provide adhesiveness and other functionalities.

While it is acknowledged that Kaule is silent to the UV-curable lacquer being “deep-drawable”, it is noted that since Applicant broadly recites the limitation of a UV-curable lacquer, it is the Examiner's position that the UV-curable lacquer intrinsically would be “deep-drawable”. Examiner also notes that the lacquer as presently claimed has the capability of being cured by ultraviolet radiation and further has the capability to be “deep-drawable”. As such, given the above broad disclosure of a UV-curable lacquer in which the lacquer must only be capable of being “deep-drawable” that is presently claimed in conjunction with the disclosure of a UV-curable lacquer, it is the Examiner's position that given the broad disclosure, the material of Kaule would intrinsically meet the presently claimed limitation. Applicant is reminded that the recitation of a newly disclosed property does not distinguish over a reference disclosure of the article or composition claims. *General Electric v. Jewe Incandescent Lamp Co.*, 67 USPQ 155. *Titanium Metal Corp. v. Banner*, 227 USPQ 773. Applicant bears the responsibility for proving that the reference composition does not possess the characteristics recited in the claims. *In re Fitzgerald*, 205 USPQ 597, *In re Best*, 195 USPQ 430.

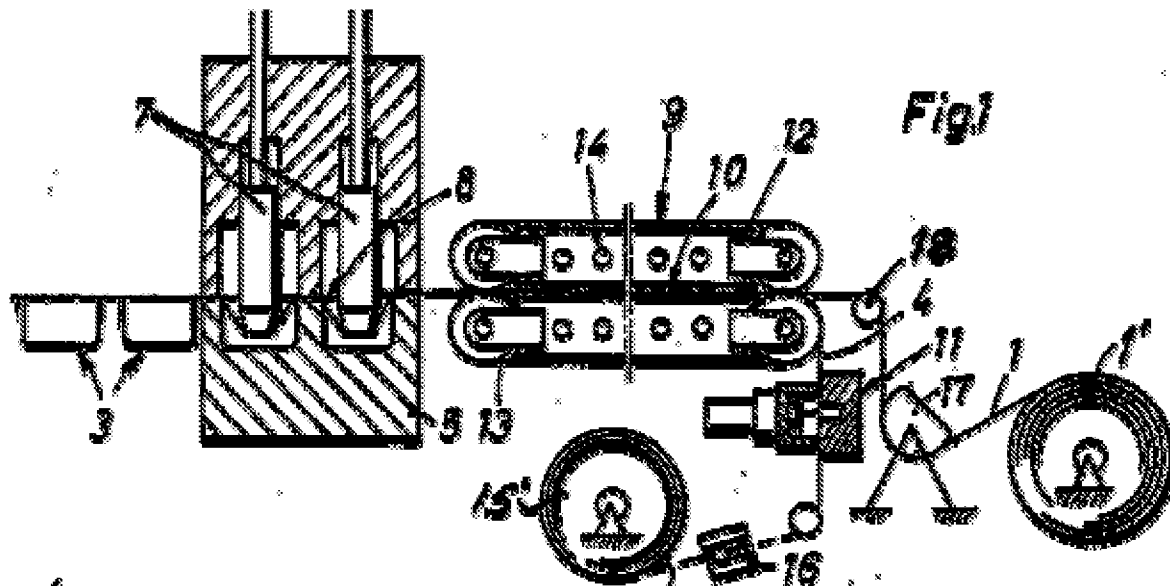
Kaule discloses that security features are may be applied to any object (**col. 8, lines 37+**), but is silent to the security feature is ‘for application onto a packaging film.’ However, the limitation of ‘for application onto a packaging film’ is a statement of intended use, and must result in a structural difference between the prior art and the

claimed intended use to be given patentable weight. See *MPEP 2111.02 II*. No structural difference can be discerned between the prior art and the present claims.

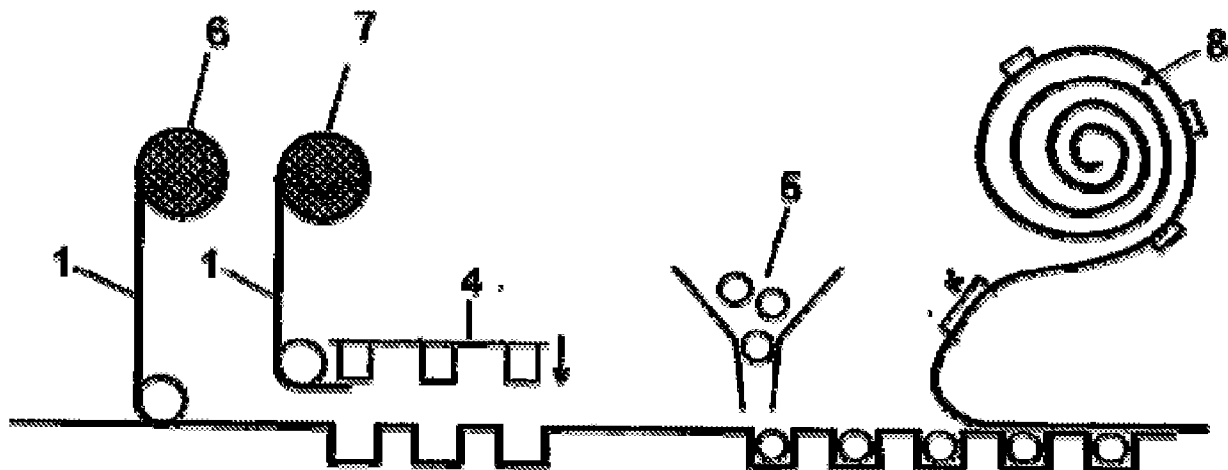
Therefore Kaule teaches a method for producing security features, that are capable of being applied to a packaging film, wherein the security label features comprise the layered structure as required by the instant claims including a carrier substrate, a UV-curable separation lacquer, considered to be capable of being deep-drawn, that is cured completely after being embossed by a mold, which is subsequently provided with additional functional layers including printed ink and adhesive layers, and wherein said features are cut to size to be transferred to an object. However, Kaule is silent to a packaging film with such security labels regionally applied or a method of applying said features to a packing film.

10. Walter teaches a deep-drawn packaging material and process for making said material, wherein a label and a planar packaging film material are simultaneously laminated and deep-drawn to result in a three-dimensionally formed packaging material bearing a label that is fixedly secured on either one or two sides of the stamped cup-like shape formed as a result of the deep-drawing process (*Fig. 1, Fig. 3, elements 2 and 4 = label and label tape respectively and related text; Abstract; Cols 1-2, lines 54-68 and 1-28*):

Walter, Fig. 1:



Applicant's Invention, Fig. 2:



Walter teaches a method for applying labels to selected areas of a packaging material wherein the label tape is broken along pre-set breaking lines to form individual labels, which are passed through a preheating section of the forming apparatus to join the label and packaging film portion and is subsequently formed into a shape by deep-drawing (*Fig. 1 and related text; Cols 1-3, lines 60-68, 1-45, 1+*). Walter further

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discloses that such a process allows for combining a labeling method and deep-drawing formation of a labeled article that reduces the number of separate apparatus' needed punch and stack the labels onto an article (**col. 2, lines 29+**). As such, Walter further teaches a foil-containing label is attached to a deep-drawn article to form a packaged and labeled article.

11. It would have therefore been obvious at the time the invention was made to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the object to which the transfer foil security labels of Kaule are applied by substituting the general objects (documents of value, ID cards, passport, CDs) of Kaule with the packaging materials and process of in-mold labeling as taught by Walter because the labels of Kaule are capable of being applied to any variety of objects including packaging materials and because use of such security features in the in-mold process disclosed by Walter would result in a packaging material with a label that is fixedly attached and integral with the packaging material that has an intrinsically improved anti-counterfeiting and authenticating feature. Further, as shown by Walter the apparatus and method shown combines a labeling method and deep-drawing formation of labeled articles that reduces the number of separate apparatus' needed to punch and stack the labels. As such, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, with the impetus to reduce production costs to use the system of Walter to produce an article containing the security features of Kaule to result in a deep-drawn package having the security features as disclosed above.

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12. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaule (**WO 99/569964**) in view of Walter (**US 4146418**) or alternatively, Walter in view of Kaule et al. with evidence from Bitner et al. (**US 5310060**).

13. Regarding claim 10, Kaule in view of Walter fails to specifically teach that the film is cold-formable. However, as evidenced by Bitner, cold-, thermo-, and pressure-forming are all equivalent conventional methods known in the art for forming blister and strip (blister sheet) packaging (*Col 13, lines 55-60*). The Examiner takes the position that the packaging material disclosed by Kaule in view of Walter is capable of being cold-formed, and therefore meets the limitations of the instant claim.

14. Claims 9, 11, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaule (**WO 99/569964**) in view of Walter (**US 4146418**) or alternatively, Walter in view of Kaule et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Zeiter et al. (**US 6494491**).

15. Kaule and Walter disclose the above; however, Kaule and Walter are silent to the packaging film being a blister film or for strip packs.

16. Zeiter ('491) discloses a packaging material that has defined areas with one or more security features that are of holographic images or text ('491; *Col. 2, lines 28-33*). The security features taught by Zeiter may either be directly printed on or laminated onto the packaging film ('491; *Col 3, lines 24-30*). Zeiter teaches that the packaging forms may specifically be formed into packages such as push-through packs or blister packs, by stamping, sealing, deep drawing and/or stretch drawing ('491; *Col 4, lines 14-*

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24). Zeiter discloses that forgery-proof packaging or packaging material may serve as guarantee of origin, enabling the customer to recognize that the purchased item was actually manufactured and packaged by the desired manufacturer, as a guarantee that the item has not been tampered with and is not a fake (*Col 1, lines 22-37*), which is of great importance especially for the pharmaceutical, foodstuffs, cosmetics, software industries (*Col 1, lines 11-21*). The Examiner notes that blister packs taught by Zeiter may be in the form of a strip having multiple blisters, and therefore a strip pack, as is known in the pharmaceutical industry.

17. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the packaging film having at least one security feature as taught by Kaule in view of Walter to include blister films and strip packs as taught by Zeiter because the formation of in-mold security labels that are fixedly attached and integral with such blister films and strip pack materials will result in forgery-proof packaging or packaging that serve as a guarantee of origin, enabling the customer to recognize that the purchased item was actually manufactured and packaged by the desired manufacturer, as a guarantee that the item has not been tampered with and is authentic, which is of great importance especially for the pharmaceutical, foodstuffs, cosmetics, software industries.

Additionally, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the type of packaging material taught by Kaule in view of Walters to include blister and strip packs because such a modification to the form of the packaging material only requires a change in the shape and/or size of the material, where a

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change in size is generally recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art, and the configuration is a matter of choice which a person of ordinary skill in the art would have found obvious absent persuasive evidence that the particular configuration claimed was significant, see *MPEP 2144.04, IV*.

18. Claims 13 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaule (**WO 99/569964**) in view of Reinhart (**EP0210620 Translation**). The PCT application was published November 11, 1999. Examiner would like to note that US Patent No. 6688221 is used as the translation as the specification for entry as a National Stage Application must be translated as filed into English. See *MPEP 1893.01(a)*.

19. Kaule discloses the above; however, Kaule is silent to pre-curing prior to embossing the lacquer and said lacquer having two or more different photoinitiators.

20. Reinhart disclose a method of making a film with a textured lacquer coating. The film is comprised of a support film and at least an embossed lacquer film wherein said lacquer film is partially cured prior to embossing and fully cured after embossing (**abstract**). The lacquer coating is comprised of a UV-curable material that contains two photoinitiators susceptible to two different wavelengths wherein one initiator initiates the partial curing and the other for complete curing (**abstract**). The two-part curing process allows for better adhesion to the support film due to the complete curing process and finer embossed features than the one step curing processes (**1st page, 3rd-6th**

paragraphs). Thus, the disclosure of Kaule and Reinhart would meet the presently claimed limitations of claims 13 and 22.

21. However, note that while Reinhart does not disclose all the features of the present claimed invention, Reinhart is used as teaching reference, and therefore, it is not necessary for this secondary reference to contain all the features of the presently claimed invention, *In re Nievelt*, 482 F.2d 965, 179 USPQ 224, 226 (CCPA 1973), *In re Keller* 624 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871, 881 (CCPA 1981). Rather this reference teaches a certain concept, namely, partially curing and fully curing a textured lacquer by means of at least two photoinitiators in order to produce a lacquer having finer features and better adhesion than one-step curable lacquers and in combination with the primary reference, discloses the presently claimed invention.

22. All of the elements were known within the art. The only difference is a single disclosure containing all of the presently claimed elements. Kaule discloses the above; however, Kaule is silent to pre-curing prior to embossing the lacquer and said lacquer having two or more different photoinitiators. Reinhart disclose a method of making a film with a textured lacquer coating. The film is comprised of a support film and at least an embossed lacquer film wherein said lacquer film is partially cured prior to embossing and fully cured after embossing by means of two photoinitiators. The motivation to combine the above references is drawn to Reinhart which disclose the partial curing and fully curing allow for finer features to be formed and the resultant lacquer coating having better adhesion. As such, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art

to use two photoinitiators to allow for partial and full curing to take advantage of the better adhesion of the lacquer in Kaule and form finer structures.

23. Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaule (**WO 99/569964**) in view of Walter (**US 4146418**) or alternatively, Walter in view of Kaule et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Reinhart (**EP0210620 Translation**). The PCT application was published November 11, 1999. Examiner would like to note that US Patent No. 6688221 is used as the translation as the specification for entry as a National Stage Application must be translated as filed into English. See *MPEP 1893.01(a)*.

24. Kaule and Walter disclose the above; however, Kaule and Walter are silent to the lacquer having two or more different photoinitiators.

25. Reinhart disclose a method of making a film with a textured lacquer coating. The film is comprised of a support film and at least an embossed lacquer film wherein said lacquer film is partially cured prior to embossing and fully cured after embossing (**abstract**). The lacquer coating is comprised of a UV-curable material that contains two photoinitiators susceptible to two different wavelengths wherein one initiator initiates the partial curing and the other for complete curing (**abstract**). The two-part curing process allows for better adhesion to the support film due to the complete curing process and finer embossed features than the one step curing processes (**1st page, 3rd-6th paragraphs**). Thus, the disclosure of Kaule, Walter, and Reinhart would meet the presently claimed limitation of claim 21.

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26. However, note that while Reinhart does not disclose all the features of the present claimed invention, Reinhart is used as teaching reference, and therefore, it is not necessary for this secondary reference to contain all the features of the presently claimed invention, *In re Nievelt*, 482 F.2d 965, 179 USPQ 224, 226 (CCPA 1973), *In re Keller* 624 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871, 881 (CCPA 1981). Rather this reference teaches a certain concept, namely, partially curing and fully curing a textured lacquer by means of at least two photoinitiators in order to produce a lacquer having finer features and better adhesion than one-step curable lacquers and in combination with the primary reference, discloses the presently claimed invention.

27. All of the elements were known within the art. The only difference is a single disclosure containing all of the presently claimed elements. Kaule and Walter disclose the above; however, Kaule and Walter are silent to the lacquer having two or more different photoinitiators. Reinhart disclose a method of making a film with a textured lacquer coating. The film is comprised of a support film and at least an embossed lacquer film wherein said lacquer film is partially cured prior to embossing and fully cured after embossing by means of two photoinitiators. The motivation to combine the above references is drawn to Reinhart which disclose the partial curing and fully curing allow for finer features to be formed and the resultant lacquer coating having better adhesion. As such, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use two photoinitiators to allow for partial and full curing to take advantage of the better adhesion of the lacquer in Kaule and Walter and form finer structures.

Response to Arguments

28. Applicant's arguments filed 10/22/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant asserts that the UV-curable lacquer as disclosed by Kaule would not be capable of being deep-drawable and asserts that evidence be provided that UV-curable lacquers are indeed capable of being deep-drawn. Examiner respectfully disagrees and notes that Applicant broadly recites the limitation of a UV-curable lacquer with a capability of being deep-drawn. Examiner also notes that the lacquer as presently claimed has the capability of being cured by ultraviolet radiation and further has the capability to be "deep-drawable". As such, given the above broad disclosure of a UV-curable lacquer in which the lacquer must only be capable of being "deep-drawable" that is presently claimed in conjunction with the disclosure of a UV-curable lacquer, it is the Examiner's position that given the broad disclosure, the material of Kaule would intrinsically meet the presently claimed limitation. Applicant is reminded that the recitation of a newly disclosed property does not distinguish over a reference disclosure of the article or composition claims. *General Electric v. Jewe Incandescent Lamp Co.*, 67 USPQ 155. *Titanium Metal Corp. v. Banner*, 227 USPQ 773. Applicant bears the responsibility for proving that the reference composition does not possess the characteristics recited in the claims. *In re Fitzgerald*, 205 USPQ 597, *In re Best*, 195 USPQ 430. Examiner further notes that the present limitations are drawn towards the **capability** of the UV-curable lacquer to be deep drawable, not that the lacquer actually is deep-drawn. As such, the present disclosure would meet the present limitations. Examiner also notes that the Applicant has not provided any evidence to the

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contrary in which the lacquer of Kaule would not be capable of the present limitation.

Thus, the rejections are maintained.

Conclusion

29. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PRASHANT J. KHATRI whose telephone number is (571)270-3470. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. (First Friday Off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Sample can be reached on (571) 272-1376. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Patricia L. Nordmeyer/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1794

PRASHANT J KHATRI
Examiner
Art Unit 1794